

# Resident Undergraduate Charges at California's Public Universities

A CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION FACTSHEET



CALIFORNIA charges its own residents less to attend its public colleges and universities than it charges nonresidents. It charges resident students systemwide fees as well as mandatory campus-based fees. These fees help support student services like counseling, health insurance, student union activities, student government, and recreation -- but it has sought to avoid charging them for the direct cost of instruction, which it charges as "tuition" to nonresident students.

## Who are resident students?

California State University determines the residency of its students according to the California statute, which defines resident students for tuition purposes as those who (1) have resided in California for at least one year and one day prior to enrolling in a college or university, and (2) intend to make California their home. A student may demonstrate the intent to reside in California through a number of means, including obtaining a California driver's license, owning or renting property in the state, registering a vehicle in California, and paying California personal income taxes.

The University of California has adopted stricter residency requirements for its undergraduate students. It requires that students be classified as residents of the state in which their parents reside as long as they are classified as dependent upon their parents according to financial aid definitions. This generally means that out-of-state undergraduate students cannot establish residency until they are 24 years of age.

## What does the University of California charge resident students?

For 1999-2000, the University is charging undergraduate California residents an average of \$3,903 in mandatory fees, including a \$3,429 systemwide fee which is 5 percent lower than the 1998-99 level. This total is \$1,154 less than the average fee charged by the four public universities with which it compares itself on faculty salaries:

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	\$6,673
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	4,770
State University of New York, Buffalo	4,655
University of Virginia	<u>4,130</u>
Average of the four universities	\$5,057

## What does the California State University charge resident students?

The California State University is charging resident students an average of \$1,830 in mandatory fees, including a \$1,428 systemwide fee which is 5 percent lower than the 1998-99 level. This total is lower than all of the 15 public universities with which it compares itself in terms of faculty salaries and \$2,050 lower than the group average:

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark	\$5,833
University of Connecticut	5,404
University of Maryland, Baltimore County	5,160
George Mason University (Virginia)	5,124
State University of New York, Albany	4,453
Illinois State University	4,285
Wayne State University	4,127
Cleveland State University	3,894
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	3,743
Georgia State University	3,358
University of Texas, Arlington	3,336
University of Colorado, Denver	2,548
North Carolina State University	2,414
Arizona State University	2,262
University of Nevada, Reno	<u>2,259</u>
Average of the 15 universities	\$3,880

## How have charges for California residents changed over the years?

The displays on the reverse side show the average annual resident undergraduate fees at the University of California and the California State University for fiscal years 1977-78 through 1999-2000, expressed in actual and constant 1999-2000 dollars.

*Total Annual Resident Undergraduate Student Fees, Expressed in Actual and Constant 1999-2000 Dollars, for Fiscal Years 1976-77 Through 1999-2000*

